

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system comprising:

a photographing portion; and

a control portion comprising:

a shape extractor ~~extracting means~~, for repeatedly extracting shapes that represent expressions of human subjects within images, which are being imaged by the photographing portion;

a match calculator ~~calculating means~~ for recording predetermined shapes in advance, and for sequentially calculating the degrees of match between the extracted shapes and the predetermined shapes; and

a controller ~~control means~~ for controlling the photographing portion to photograph the subjects when the calculated degrees of match exceed a predetermined threshold value, wherein:

the predetermined threshold value is decreased according to an increase in the number of shape extractions.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system as defined in claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein:

the control portion further comprises:

an identifying data receiver ~~receiving means~~, for receiving identifying data, transmitted from the subjects, that identifies the subjects; and

a memory ~~means~~ for recording predetermined threshold values corresponding to the identifying data of the subjects received by the identifying data receiver ~~receiving means~~;
wherein:

the controller ~~control means~~ controls the photographing portion based on the predetermined threshold values which are recorded in the memory ~~means~~, corresponding to the received identifying data.

4. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system comprising:
a photographing portion; and
a control portion comprising:
a shape extractor ~~extracting means~~, for repeatedly extracting shapes that represent poses of subjects within images, which are being imaged by the photographing portion;
a match calculator ~~calculating means~~ for recording predetermined shapes in advance, and for sequentially calculating the degrees of match between the extracted shapes and the predetermined shapes; and
a controller ~~control means~~ for controlling the photographing portion to photograph the subjects when the calculated degrees of match exceed a predetermined threshold value, wherein:
the predetermined threshold value is decreased according to an increase in the number of shape extractions.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) An automatic photography system as defined in claim 4 ~~5~~,
wherein:

the control portion further comprises:

an identifying data receiver ~~receiving means~~, for receiving identifying data, transmitted
from the subjects, that identifies the subjects; and

a memory ~~means~~ for recording predetermined threshold values corresponding to the
identifying data of the subjects received by the identifying data receiving means; wherein:

the controller ~~control means~~ controls the photographing portion based on the
predetermined threshold values which are recorded in the memory ~~means~~, corresponding to the
received identifying data.